

Message Text

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14

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INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 INT-05 COME-00 L-03 EB-07 AID-05

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NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 279827

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ESCAP, VN

SUBJECT: ESCAP: CCOP (KUALA LUMPUR) AND TYPHOON COMMITTEE
(MANILA) MEETINGS: SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM PARTICI-
PATION.

PLEASE PASS TO USDELS TO SUBJECT MEETINGS

IN THE EVENT SRV REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT FOR EITHER OF THE
SUBJECT MEETINGS, USDEL SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING GUIDANCE:
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1. POSITION: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT VIETNAM WILL ATTEND MEETINGS LATER THIS MONTH OF THE ESCAP TYPHOON COMMITTEE AND THE ESCAP COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATION OF JOINT PROSPECTING FOR MINERAL RESOURCES IN ASIAN OFFSHORE AREAS (CCOP). IF THE VIETNAMESE PARTICIPATE, YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON THE STATEMENT BELOW IN RESPONDING INFORMALLY TO ANY QUERIES REGARDING OUR POSITION ON THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THESE COMMITTEES. YOU SHOULD NOT FORMALLY RAISE THE ISSUE, SINCE WE HAVE ALREADY MADE OUR POSITION KNOWN FOR THE RECORD AT ANOTHER RECENT ESCAP MEETING. YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO RESPOND INFORMALLY ALONG THE LINES INDICATED IF NECESSARY.

2. DISCUSSION: SINCE THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) PARTICIPATED IN ESCAP'S COMMITTEE OF TRADE MEETING IN BANGKOK IN EARLY NOVEMBER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE SRV WILL SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO EITHER OR BOTH OF THE MEETINGS SCHEDULED BY THESE TWO OTHER ESCAP SUB-ORGANIZATIONS. AT THE COMMITTEE OF TRADE MEETING, OUR REPRESENTATIVE MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

BEGIN QUOTE

I WISH TO STATE AS A MATTER OF RECORD MY DELEGATION'S RESERVATIONS REGARDING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S ACCESSION TO THE SEAT IN ESCAP FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY SOUTH VIETNAM. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS QUESTION CAN PROPERLY BE DECIDED ONLY BY ESCAP IN PLENARY SESSION AND BY ITS PARENT ORGANIZATION ECOSOC AND THAT IN ANY EVENT IT IS PREMATURE TO ACCEPT THE SRV'S MEMBERSHIP UNTIL THESE BODIES ARE SATISFIED THAT THE NEW AUTHORITIES FOR ALL OF VIETNAM ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO CARRY OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERSHIP AS WELL AS THEIR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS. END QUOTE.

3. CONSEQUENT TO THIS STATEMENT, THE ESCAP EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AT THIS MEETING WAS ADVISED THAT THE UN LEGAL OFFICE CONSIDERED THE SRV TO HAVE SUCCEEDED TO THE SEAT FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY SOUTH VIETNAM IN ESCAP RETROACTIVE TO JULY 2, 1976 WHEN THE TWO VIETNAMS WERE OFFICIALLY UNIFIED. BASED ON THIS ADVICE, THE ESCAP EXECUTIVE SECRETARY THEREUPON ANNOUNCED THAT THE SRV HAD BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND

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THE COMMITTEE OF TRADE MEETING AND ALSO EXTENDED FULL MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS TO ATTEND OTHER ESCAP MEETINGS. DESPITE THIS ACTION, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE UN LEGAL OFFICE ADVISORY OPINION IS BINDING ONLY ON THE ESCAP SECRETARIAT AND NOT THE MEMBERS. NONETHELESS, BECAUSE OUR ABOVE STATEMENT WAS MADE FOR THE RECORD, WE DO NOT THINK IT IS NECESSARY FORMALLY TO REAFFIRM OUR POSITION ON SRV MEMBERSHIP AT EVERY ESCAP SUB-BODY MEETING, AND ESPECIALLY AT

THOSE WHERE OUR DELEGATION IS REPRESENTED IN AN OBSERVER
CAPACITY LIKE AT THESE TWO UPCOMING MEETINGS. WE SHOULD
BE PREPARED, HOWEVER, TO DRAW UPON THE ABOVE STATEMENT
SHOULD THE SUBJECT BE RAISED IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. KISSINGER

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